

Filed for intro on 01/21/98  
HOUSE BILL 2133 By  
Fowlkes

SENATE BILL 2207  
By Cohen

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, relative to special and cultural license plates.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, is amended by deleting Parts 2 and 3 in their entirety and by substituting instead the following as a new Part 2:

**Section 55-4-201.**

(a)(1) All specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates, memorial motor vehicle registration plates and special purpose motor vehicle registration plates now, or in the future, shall be issued pursuant to the provisions of this part. No plate, other than those issued under Part 1 of this chapter, shall be issued unless authorized in this part.

(b) All plates issued pursuant to this part shall be issued and renewed subject to the following:

(1) Payment of the applicable registration fee, except as specifically provided otherwise by §55-4-203 or any other applicable provision of this part;

(2) An additional fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), except as specifically provided otherwise by §55-4-203 or any other applicable provision of this part;

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- (3) A minimum order of at least four hundred (400) plates. Personalized and collegiate plates for motorcycles, as authorized by §55-4-210(c), shall be subject to a minimum order of four hundred (400) plates for each classification of personalized or collegiate plates; and
- (4) A design which shall be approved by the commissioner.

(c)(1) The provisions of subdivision (b)(3) shall apply equally to the renewal of any plate issued pursuant to this part; provided, however, any plate that fails to meet the minimum requirements of subdivision (b)(3) by December 31, 1999 or for two (2) successive renewal periods thereafter shall not be reissued or renewed and the commissioner shall notify the Tennessee code commission that the section of Tennessee Code Annotated authorizing the issuance of such plate is, on the basis of such inactivity, to be deemed obsolete and invalid.

(2) Any plate authorized by this part that qualifies for initial issuance after July 1, 1998 shall be subject to the minimum issuance requirements of subdivision (b)(3).

(d) Any plate authorized by this part that has not qualified for initial issuance by December 31, 1999 shall not be issued and the commissioner shall notify the Tennessee code commission that the section of Tennessee Code Annotated authorizing the issuance of such plate is, on the basis of such inactivity, to be deemed obsolete and invalid.

(e) The provisions of subdivision (b)(3) and subsections (c) and (d) shall not apply to the following plates issued pursuant to this part:

- (1) Dealer;
- (2) Disabled;
- (3) Emergency;
- (4) "Enemy Evadees" as certified by the department of veterans' affairs;
- (5) Firefighter as provided for in §55-4-241;
- (6) General Assembly;
- (7) Government service;

- (8) Honorary consular;
- (9) Judiciary;
- (10) Memorial;
- (11) Metropolitan council;
- (12) National guard;
- (13) Pearl Harbor survivors;
- (14) Sheriff;
- (15) United States House of Representatives;
- (16) United States Judge; and
- (17) United States Senate.

**Section 55-4-202.**

(a) All registration plates issued under the provisions of this part shall be issued in one (1) of the following categories:

- (1) Dealer;
- (2) Disabled;
- (3) Emergency;
- (4) Firefighter;
- (5) General Assembly;
- (6) Government service;
- (7) Judiciary;
- (8) Memorial;
- (9) National Guard;
- (10) Sheriff;
- (11) Specialty;
- (12) New specialty;
- (13) Specialty earmarked;

- (14) New specialty earmarked;
- (15) Street rod;
- (16) United States House of Representatives;
- (17) United States Judge; and
- (18) United States Senate.

(b) (1) Registration plates currently provided under the "dealer", "government service", "disabled", and "National Guard" categories shall be issued in design configurations and colors which distinguish the plates from those of other categories, and in a manner which would avoid confusion with any other registration plates.

(2) Registration plates issued in any other category shall be issued in a design configuration distinctive to that category and determined by the commissioner, and shall bear at the top of the plate the word "Tennessee" or "Tenn" and at the bottom the name of the category. In addition, the plates in each category may bear identifying letter prefixes to distinguish the group within the category, and shall bear identifying number suffixes to identify the individual registrant.

(c) The groups within each category having multiple plates shall be as follows:

(1) Emergency:

- (A) Amateur radio;
- (B) Auxiliary police;
- (C) Civil air patrol;
- (D) Civil defense;
- (E) Rescue squad; and
- (F) Emergency services squad.

(2) Judiciary:

- (A) Supreme court;
- (B) Court of appeals;

- (C) Court of criminal appeals;
- (D) Chancery court;
- (E) Circuit court;
- (F) Probate court;
- (G) Juvenile court;
- (H) General sessions court;
- (I) Retired judges of courts, not-of-record; and
- (J) Elected municipal court judges.

(3) National Guard:

- (A) Enlisted;
- (B) Officers; and
- (C) Retirees.

(4) Memorial:

- (A) Air Force Cross recipient;
- (B) Disabled veteran;
- (C) Distinguished Service Cross recipient;
- (D) Former prisoner of war;
- (E) Medal of honor recipient; and
- (F) Navy Cross recipient.

(5) Specialty:

- (A) Antique motor vehicle;
- (B) B'nai B'rith;
- (C) Civitans;
- (D) Collegiate, as defined in §55-4-209:
  - (i) Penn State University;
  - (ii) University of Arkansas;

- (iii) University of Florida;
- (iv) University of Mississippi;
- (v) All collegiate plates issued as cultural motor vehicle registration plates prior to July 1, 1998; and
- (vi) All collegiate plates administratively issued by the department of safety on or after July 1, 1998 pursuant to §55-4-210;

(E) Eastern Star;

(F) Exchange Club;

(G) Fraternal Order of Police;

(H) Honorary consular;

(I) International Association of Firefighters;

(J) Jaycees;

(K) Junior chamber of commerce;

(L) Junior League;

(M) Kiwanis;

(N) Knights of Columbus;

(O) Lions Club;

(P) Masons;

(Q) Military:

- (i) Combat veterans;

- (ii) "Enemy Evadees" as certified by the department of veterans' affairs;

- (iii) Holder of the Purple Heart;

- (iv) Honorably discharged veterans of the United States armed forces;

- (v) Marine Corps League;

- (vi) Pearl Harbor survivors.
- (vii) United States military, active forces, pursuant to §55-4-244;
- (viii) United States military, retired forces, pursuant to §55-4-244;
- (ix) U.S. reserve forces pursuant to §55-4-242;
- (x) U.S. reserve forces, retired, pursuant to §55-4-244;
- (R) Metropolitan council;
- (S) NAACP;
- (T) National Exchange Club/Tennessee District Exchange Clubs;
- (U) Native American Indian;
- (V) Optimists;
- (W) Personalized, issued pursuant to §§55-4-210 and 55-4-211;
- (X) Police benevolent association;
- (Y) Rotary International;
- (Z) Sertoma Club;
- (AA) Shriner;
- (BB) Square dance;
- (CC) Street rod;
- (DD) Tennessee State Employees Association;
- (EE) Tennessee Walking Horse; and
- (FF) Toastmasters;
- (6) New specialty plates, as defined in §55-4-209;
- (7) Specialty earmarked:
  - (A) Agriculture;
  - (B) Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority;
  - (C) Alpha Phi Alpha;
  - (D) Anti-crime;

- (E) Arts supporters;
- (F) Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.;
- (G) Ducks Unlimited;
- (H) Environmental;
- (I) Friends of Great Smoky Mountains;
- (J) Helping school volunteer;
- (K) Kappa Alpha Psi;
- (L) KIDS FIRST!
- (M) Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD);
- (N) Non-game and endangered wildlife species or "Watchable Wildlife";
- (O) Olympic;
- (P) Omega Psi Phi;
- (Q) Passenger rail service;
- (R) Phi Beta Sigma;
- (S) Senior citizens;
- (T) Sigma Gamma Rho;
- (U) Supporters of Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital;
- (V) Tennessee Home Education Association; and
- (W) Zeta Phi Beta; and

(8) New specialty earmarked plates, as defined in §55-4-209.

(d)(1) No registration plate shall be issued under the provisions of this section unless authorized by this part. Registration under this part is supplemental to the motor vehicle title and registration law, compiled in chapters 1-6 of this title, and nothing in this part shall be construed as abridging or amending that law. An applicant with more than one (1) motor vehicle titled or leased in that applicant's name, or applicants with more than one (1) motor vehicle jointly titled and/or leased in their names are entitled to an unlimited number of registration plates under the

applicable provision of law, as long as all other special fees and regular costs are paid by the applicant and all requirements set out in title 55, chapter 4, parts 1 and 2 are followed.

(2) No qualified person shall receive more than one (1) free plate, unless the issuance of additional free plates is specifically authorized by the statute creating such specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plate, memorial plate or special purpose plate.

(e) Registration plates issued to United States Judges, United States Senators, and members of the United States House of Representatives pursuant to subdivision (a)(1)(15)-(17) shall be of a distinctive design approved by the department and shall bear, as applicable, the district number of house members, the number "1" or "2" for Senators, based on seniority, and the appropriate number for judges, based on seniority of appointment. Unless a conflict exists with other designs, the designs used before July 1, 1984, shall be used.

(f) Whenever a spouse having a specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plate, memorial plate or special purpose plate is divorced and no longer entitled to such plate, the spouse no longer entitled to such plate shall deliver such plate to the county clerk, and the county clerk shall issue a regular plate valid for the same period as the specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plate, memorial plate or special purpose plate.

#### **Section 55-4-203**

(a) In addition to title, registration, transfer or other fees or taxes otherwise applicable under this title, persons applying for and receiving registration plates under this part shall pay additional fees as follows:

- (1) Antique motor vehicle – twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) pursuant to §55-4-111(a)(1)(E) and as provided for in §55-4-111(b);
- (2) Dealers, as provided for in §55-4-221;

(3) Disabled - regular fee applicable to the vehicle, except as expressly provided otherwise in §55-21-103;

(4) Emergency:

(A) Amateur radio:

(i) Regular fee applicable to the vehicle, if the applicant meets the qualifications of §55-4-229(e); or

(ii) Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), if the applicant does not meet the qualifications of §55-4-229(e);

(B) Regular fee applicable to the vehicle and as provided for in §55-4-222 for the following special purpose plates:

(i) Auxiliary police;

(ii) Civil air patrol;

(iii) Civil defense;

(iv) Rescue squad; and

(v) Emergency services squad;

(5) Firefighter - regular fee applicable to the vehicle and as provided for in §55-4-241;

(6) General Assembly - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

(7) Government service - as provided for in §55-4-223;

(8) Judiciary - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

(9) National Guard: enlisted, officers and retirees - as provided for in §55-4-228;

(10) Sheriff - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

(11) Street rod – fifty dollars (\$50.00) and as provided for in §55-4-230;

(12) United States House of Representatives - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

(13) United States Judge - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00); and

(14) United States Senate - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

(b) The following plates shall be issued free of charge and in the number specified by the section authorizing the issuance of the individual plate, provided that the appropriate criteria are met by the applicant:

Memorial:

- (1) Air Force Cross recipients;
- (2) Disabled Veterans, including those disabled veterans who choose to receive the Purple Heart plate pursuant to §55-4-239(e);
- (3) Distinguished Service Cross recipients;
- (4) Former Prisoner of War;
- (5) Medal of Honor recipients; and
- (6) Navy Cross recipients.

(c) The following specialty plates shall be issued upon the payment of the regular registration fee and a fee equal to the cost of actually designing and manufacturing the plates, provided that the issuance of such plates shall be revenue neutral:

Military:

- (1) Combat veterans;
- (2) "Enemy Evadees" as certified by the department of veterans' affairs;
- (3) Holder of the Purple Heart;
- (4) Honorably discharged veterans of the United States armed forces;
- (5) Marine Corps League;
- (6) Pearl Harbor survivors;
- (7) United States military, active forces, pursuant to §55-4-244;
- (8) United States military, retired, pursuant to §55-4-244;
- (9) U.S. reserve forces pursuant to §55-4-242; and
- (10) U.S. reserve forces, retired, pursuant to §55-4-244.

(d) All other specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates authorized by this part shall be issued upon the payment of a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) in addition to the regular registration fee.

**Section 55-4-204.**

Registration plates issued under this part may bear up to seven (7) characters or positions for a passenger motor vehicle, recreational vehicle or truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating, or, if authorized, up to six (6) characters or positions for a motorcycle.

**Section 55-4-205.**

The commissioner of safety, or any other department commissioner hereinafter designated with such responsibility, shall make such rules and regulations as are necessary to require compliance with all state license laws relating to the use and operation of a motor vehicle before issuing specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plates, memorial plates or special purpose plates in lieu of the regular Tennessee license plates, and all applications for such plates shall be made to the county clerk of the county wherein the applicant resides, unless provided for otherwise.

**Section 55-4-206.**

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-4-104 or other provisions of part 1 of this chapter, all license plates issued under the provisions of this part and certificates of registration shall not expire on March 31 of each year, but rather shall expire pursuant to subsection (b).

(b) With respect to motor vehicles using plates issued pursuant to this part, the commissioner shall establish a system of registration renewals at alternate intervals which will allow for the distribution of the registration workload as uniformly as is practicable throughout the calendar year. Registrations issued under the alternate method are valid for twelve (12) months, and expire on the last day of the last month of the registration period. However, during a transition period, or at any time thereafter when the commissioner shall determine that the volume of work for any given interval is unduly burdensome or costly, either registrations or

renewals, or both of them, may be issued for terms of not less than six (6) months nor more than eighteen (18) months. The fee imposed for registration of any vehicle under the alternate interval method for a period of other than twelve (12) months shall be proportionate to the annual fee fixed for the vehicle and modified in no other manner, except that the proportional fee shall be rounded off to the nearest quarter of a dollar (\$.25).

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, dealer plates shall be issued and renewed pursuant to §55-4-221.

**Section 55-4-207.**

The cost of any registration plate which is provided without cost to an individual on account of employment, membership, or participation in any agency, department, organization, or governmental entity shall be reimbursed to the department by the agency, department, organization, or governmental entity of which such person is an employee, member, or participant.

**Section 55-4-208.**

The commissioner of safety is urged to take the necessary steps to computerize applications for and records of the specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates, memorial plates and special purpose plates authorized by this part.

**Section 55-4-209.**

For the purposes of this part:

(1) "Specialty earmarked plate" means a motor vehicle registration plate authorized by statute prior to July 1, 1998 and enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(7), which statute earmarks the funds produced from the sale of such plate to be allocated to a specific organization, agency or other entity to fulfill a specific purpose or to accomplish a specific goal;

(2) "New specialty earmarked plate" means a motor vehicle registration plate administratively authorized by the department of safety, or otherwise

authorized, on or after July 1, 1998, the authorization for which plate earmarks the funds produced from the sale of such plate to be allocated to a specific organization, agency or other entity to fulfill a specific purpose or to accomplish a specific goal;

(3) "Specialty plate" means an honorary motor vehicle registration plate authorized by this part prior to July 1, 1998 and enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(5). "Specialty plates" shall include collegiate plates and personalized plates unless such plates are specifically excluded from such definition by statute;

(4) "New specialty plate" means an honorary motor vehicle registration plate administratively authorized by the department on or after July 1, 1998, the authorization for which plate does not specifically earmark the funds produced from the sale of such plates;

(5) "Collegiate plate" means the class of specialty motor vehicle registration plates enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(5)(D), which features on each individual plate a special reference to or identification or information on:

(A) a two-year or four-year college or university located within Tennessee or;

(B) a four-year college or university located outside Tennessee;

(6) "Personalized plate" means the class of specialty motor vehicle registration plates which features on each individual plate not less than three (3) nor more than seven (7) identifying numbers, letters, positions or a combination thereof for a passenger motor vehicle, recreational vehicle or truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter ton rating or, if authorized, not less than three (3) nor more than six (6) identifying numbers, letters, positions or a combination thereof for a motorcycle, as requested by the owner or lessee of the vehicle to which such plate is assigned;

(7) "Memorial plates" means those motor vehicle registration plates, as enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(4) and defined in §55-4-240, that are issued free of charge, including the regular registration fee, pursuant to §55-4-203(b);and

(8) "Special purpose plates" means all other motor vehicle registration plates issued pursuant to this part, including dealer, disabled, emergency, firefighter pursuant to §55-4-241, General Assembly, government service, judiciary, National Guard, sheriff, street rod, United States House of Representatives, United States Judge and United States Senate plates.

#### **Section 55-4-210.**

(a) Effective July 1, 1998, applications for the issuance of new specialty or new specialty earmarked license plates shall be made to the commissioner of safety. The commissioner shall compile all such requests and shall issue new specialty and new specialty earmarked plates to qualified applicants, provided that the minimum issuance requirements of §55-4-201(b)(3) and all other requirements of this part are met.

(b) The department of safety is additionally authorized to administratively issue personalized plates and collegiate plates, as defined in §55-4-209, to qualified applicants, provided that the minimum issuance requirements of §55-4-201(b)(3) and all other requirements of this part are met for each classification of personalized or collegiate plates.

(c)(1) All specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates, including personalized and collegiate plates, may be issued for private passenger automobiles, recreational vehicles and trucks of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating.

(2) Personalized and collegiate plates may also be issued for motorcycles, provided the minimum issuance requirements of §55-4-201(b)(3) are met.

(d)(1) The commissioner of safety shall not issue any license plate commemorating any practice which is contrary to the public policy of the state of Tennessee nor shall the

commissioner issue any license plate to any entity whose goals and objectives are contrary to the public policy of Tennessee.

(2) The commissioner of safety shall refuse to issue any combination of letters, numbers or positions that may carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or that are misleading.

(e) Registration numbers for license plates issued pursuant to this part shall not conflict with or duplicate the registration numbers for any existing passenger, recreational, commercial, trailer or motor vehicle registration plates that are presently issued pursuant to statute, resolution, executive order, or custom.

#### **Section 55-4-211**

(a) In addition to the personalized plates authorized by §55-4-210, an applicant may, through the payment of a personalization fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) in addition to the regular registration fee and the twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee established by §55-4-201(b)(2), obtain certain specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates with a personalized combination of numbers, letters, positions or a combination thereof.

(b)(1) An applicant for the issuance of personalized motor vehicle registration plates or the personalization of specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates pursuant to subsection (a) or the renewal of such plates in a subsequent registration year shall file an application therefor in such form and by such date as the department may require, indicating thereon the numbers, letters, positions or combination thereof, requested as a registration number.

(2) Such registration number shall consist of not less than three (3) nor more than seven (7) numbers, letters, positions or combination thereof for a passenger motor vehicle, truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating or recreational vehicle or, if authorized, not less than three (3) nor more than six (6) numbers, letters, positions or combination thereof for a motorcycle.

(3) Registration numbers issued pursuant to this section shall be in compliance with the provisions of §55-4-210(d) and (e).

(c) The following plates shall not be eligible for personalization pursuant to this section, but may be personalized if the statute authorizing such plate permits or requires such plate to be personalized in some form:

- (1) Honorary consular;
- (2) Memorial, as enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(4) and defined in §55-4-240;
- (3) Metropolitan Council;
- (4) Military, as enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(5)(Q);
- (5) Special purpose, as defined and enumerated in §55-4-209; and
- (6) Street rod, as defined in §55-4-230.

(d)(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this title to the contrary, any person who fulfills the following conditions may continue to renew and be issued personalized specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plates, memorial plates or special purpose plates which consist of two (2) letters, numbers, or a combination of letters and numbers:

(A) Such person was the owner of a passenger motor vehicle which was registered with the department prior to July 1, 1984; and

(B) Such person was issued a personalized specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plate, memorial plate or special purpose plate which consisted of two (2) letters, numbers, or combination thereof prior to July 1, 1984.

(2) All other provisions of this title regarding registration and licensing of passenger motor vehicles shall apply to any registration plates issued in accordance with subdivision (d)(1).

**Section 55-4-212.**

(a) Collegiate motor vehicle registration plates, as defined in §55-4-209, shall be the same size as regular passenger motor vehicle or motorcycle license plates and may be of the same color and design as regular license plates or may be of the colors and contain the logo or other distinctive design of the appropriate college or university. The commissioner of safety, after consultation with the appropriate college or university, shall determine the color(s) and design for each classification of collegiate plates.

(b) Applicants may elect to personalize collegiate plates pursuant to §55-4-211.

**Section 55-4-213.**

(a) To increase public knowledge of the availability of specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates, the department shall conduct a promotional campaign, which shall include, but not be limited to, the inclusion of applications for, and information about, such plates with motor vehicle registration renewal notices.

(b) The promotional campaign authorized in subsection (a) shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The inclusion of the following information in the motor vehicle registration renewal notices:

(A) An application for specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates ;

(B) An explanation of the formula by which the additional fees for each plate are allocated; and

(C) An illustration of no fewer than ten (10) of such plates, selected in consultation with the transportation committees of the senate and house of representatives; and

(2) The creation and distribution of a chart containing an illustration and the information required by subdivision (b)(1)(B) for each specialty, new

specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plate at each county clerk's office. The chart shall be printed on paper eight and one-half inches (8 1/2") by 7 inches (7").

(c) For any insert included in the mailing of renewal notices which originates from a county and which causes the total postal weight to be over one (1) ounce, as permitted by the United States postal service, the county shall pay the increased cost of mailing. However, the weight of any notice of a vehicle emissions testing requirement shall not be included in the calculation of the total weight.

#### **Section 55-4-214.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-6-107, effective July 1, 1998, and for all subsequent fiscal years, all revenues produced from the sale of personalized and collegiate motor vehicle registration plates as defined in §55-4-209, and all revenues produced from the personalization of specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates as authorized by §§55-4-211 and 55-4-212, after deducting the expense the department has incurred in designing, manufacturing and marketing such plates, shall be allocated as follows:

(1) Thirty percent (30%) of such funds shall be allocated to the state highway fund; and

(2) Seventy percent (70%) of such funds shall be allocated to the Tennessee arts commission created in title 4, chapter 20.

#### **Section 55-4-215.**

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-6-107, effective July 1, 1998, and for all subsequent fiscal years, all revenues produced from the sale of new specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates as defined in §55-4-209, after deducting the expense the department has incurred in designing, manufacturing and marketing such plates, shall be allocated as follows:

(1) Fifty percent (50%) of such funds shall be allocated to the organization, agency or other entity that initiated the application for the issuance of such plate. Such funds shall be used solely to fulfill the purpose or to accomplish the goal specified by such organization, agency or other entity at the time of application to the department;

(2) Twenty percent (20%) of such funds shall be allocated to the state highway fund; and

(3) Thirty percent (30%) of such funds shall be allocated to the Tennessee arts commission created in title 4, chapter 20.

(b) The revenues allocated to the Tennessee arts commission pursuant to subdivision (a)(3) shall be distributed by the arts commission in the form of grants to arts organizations or events which meet criteria established by the arts commission for receiving grants, within the following parameters:

(1) one-third ( $1/3$ ) of such funds shall be distributed to qualifying arts organizations or events in urban counties; and

(2) two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) of such funds shall be distributed to qualifying arts organizations or events in rural counties.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "urban counties" are those counties that are included within a metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget and as enumerated in the most current edition of *Tennessee Statistical Abstract*. "Rural counties" are those counties that are not included within a metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget.

**Section 55-4-216.**

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-6-107, effective July 1, 1998, and for all subsequent fiscal years, all revenues produced from the sale of the specialty motor

vehicle registration plates enumerated in §55-4-202(c)(5), except for collegiate and personalized plates, and all revenues produced from the sale of new specialty motor vehicle registration plates, memorial plates and special purpose plates, as defined in §55-4-209, after deducting the expense the department has incurred in designing, manufacturing and marketing such plates, shall be allocated as follows:

(1) Seventy percent (70%) of such funds shall be allocated to the state highway fund; and

(2) Thirty percent (30%) of such funds shall be allocated to the Tennessee arts commission created in title 4, chapter 20.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the revenues produced from the sale of collegiate and personalized plates, as defined in §55-4-209, shall be allocated pursuant to §55-4-214.

**Section 55-4-217.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-6-107, effective July 1, 1998, and for all subsequent fiscal years, the revenues produced from the sale of specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates as defined in §55-4-209, after deducting the expense the department has incurred in designing, manufacturing and marketing such plates, shall be allocated in each fiscal year as earmarked or specified in the section authorizing the issuance of each individual specialty earmarked plate.

**Section 55-4-218.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-6-107 or any other provision of this part to the contrary, all revenues produced in each fiscal year from the sale or renewal of the specialty earmarked plates to support the arts authorized by §55-4-264, minus the expense the state has incurred in manufacturing such plates, shall be allocated to the Tennessee arts commission.

**Section 55-4-219.**

(a) The following provisions shall apply to the issuance and renewal of the specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked and new specialty earmarked plates authorized by this part, unless the section authorizing the issuance of an individual plate specifically provides otherwise:

(1) The plates enumerated in subsection (a) shall be issued in conformity with the provisions of §55-4-202;

(2) Such plates shall contain the logo, emblem, insignia, or other distinctive design of the agency, organization, purpose or other entity which is being honored or recognized by the issuance of that specific plate;

(3) Such plates shall be designed in consultation with the director of the titling and registration division and the commissioner of safety, in addition to any other person or entity designated by the section authorizing an individual plate to be consulted relative to the design of such plate;

(4) Such plates shall include:

(A) A unique identifying number not to exceed seven (7) characters or positions for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c)(1); or

(B) If authorized, a unique identifying number not to exceed six (6) positions or characters for a motorcycle;

(5) No two (2) applicants shall be assigned identical registration numbers or identical license plates;

(6) Any eligible person may elect to exchange a regular registration plate for a plate enumerated in subsection (a); provided, that the fees prescribed under §55-4-203 are paid;

(7) The whole or parts of the additional fee prescribed by §55-4-203 for a specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plate shall not be refunded for the exchange of a regular plate;

(8) Additional such plates may be obtained by any eligible person upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, plus the payment of the fee prescribed in §55-4-203;

(9) The plates enumerated in subsection (a) shall be issued for the applicant's use only on the authorized motor vehicle, and in the event of a transfer of title, the transferor shall surrender such plate to the department of safety through the county clerk;

(10) Such plates may be transferred to another vehicle of the same weight class owned or leased by the same person upon proper application being made therefor and approved by the department of safety; and

(11) It shall be unlawful for any person to whom such plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be displayed on any motor vehicle, except such as authorized by the department of safety.

(b) The provisions of this section shall also apply to the issuance and renewal of special purpose plates and memorial plates, as defined in §55-4-209, unless the section authorizing the issuance of an individual memorial or special purpose plate specifically provides otherwise.

#### **Section 55-4-220.**

Specialty plates issued to Shriners shall be of a special distinctive design devised by the commissioner, and shall be available to any Shriner submitting satisfactory proof of such membership. Such specialty plates for Shriners shall also be available for motorcycles, provided the minimum issuance requirements of §55-4-201(b)(3) are met.

#### **Section 55-4-221.**

(a) Registration plates issued under the dealer category may be issued to manufacturers, dealers and transporters of motor vehicles as provided for in this part.

(b) (1) Any dealer owning any vehicle that may be legally operated upon the streets or highways of this state with a regular automobile registration may, either in person or through a

duly authorized agent or employee, operate or move the same upon any highway of the state without registering each such vehicle, upon condition that any such vehicle display thereon a special purpose plate issued to such owner as prescribed in this part. Such dealer may further authorize the operation of such vehicle bearing such plates by customers for temporary purposes not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours.

(2) The special purpose dealer plate shall have the legend "TENN" at the top of the plate and shall have "auto dealer" at the bottom of the plate. The legend shall contain the letter "D" and five (5) numbers. The special purpose dealer plate for a motor vehicle dealer that sells used motor vehicles shall have a red background and white letter and numbers. The special purpose dealer plate for a franchise motor vehicle dealer that sells new motor vehicles shall have a white background and black letter and numbers.

(3) Any dealer who has a valid number assigned by the motor vehicle commission may make application to the department for one (1) or more special purpose plates. The fee for the first plate shall be at the rate of twice the amount of the annual registration fee for a passenger motor vehicle, and the charge for additional dealer plates shall be at the regular registration fee. No dealer shall be permitted to purchase more than one hundred twenty-five (125) auto dealer plates during a registration year.

(4) A transporter may operate or move any vehicle that may be legally operated under a regular automobile registration upon any highway within this state solely for the purpose of delivery, upon likewise displaying thereon like plates issued to such transporter as provided in this part.

(5) Any vehicle preparation service or motor vehicle auction company licensed by the state of Tennessee may obtain special purpose plates to operate or move dealer-owned vehicles upon any highway within the state solely for the purpose of transporting such vehicles between a dealer's business location and the location where the cleaning, repairing, or preparation is performed or where the vehicle is to be auctioned. For the purposes of this

section, "vehicle preparation service" means any business which cleans, repairs or otherwise prepares dealer-owned vehicles in anticipation of resale by the dealer. The fees for any plate issued to a dealer preparation service shall be the same as provided by law for similar plates issued to a dealer, but no more than forty-nine (49) plates shall be issued to any one (1) applicant.

(6) The provisions of this section shall not apply to work or service vehicles owned by a manufacturer, transporter or dealer.

(c) (1) Any manufacturer or transporter may make application to any county clerk within the state, and any vehicle preparation service may make application to the county clerk of the county wherein the established place of business of such service is located, upon appropriate forms for a certificate and for one (1) or more special purpose plates or single special purpose plates as appropriate to vehicles subject to registration hereunder, which plates shall be of the same color as auto dealer plates issued in the state of Tennessee for the particular year in question and on which shall appear the letters "DL" and identifying numbers. An applicant for such registration plates who is a transporter shall submit such proof of such applicant's status as a bona fide transporter as may reasonably be required by the county clerk to whom the application is made. If the applicant is a manufacturer, the county clerk shall not issue such registration plates until the applicant shall have registered with the county clerk to whom the application is made the number of the current license issued to such manufacturer by the motor vehicle commission. For registering the license number of such manufacturers and dealers, the county clerk shall be entitled to a fee of five dollars (\$5.00).

(2) The county clerk, upon granting any such application, shall, upon the payment of the appropriate fee, issue to the applicant a certificate containing the applicant's name and address.

(3) All such special purpose plates issued to any vehicle preparation service, manufacturer, or transporter shall bear identifying numbers, and no special purpose plates

issued to other vehicle preparation services, manufacturers, or transporters shall bear the same number.

(4) The commissioner is hereby authorized and empowered to design, issue and regulate the use of temporary plates for use in cases where dealer plates cannot be used. Temporary plates may be issued for a period of seven (7) days or for a period of fourteen (14) days. The fee for the seven-day plate shall be one dollar (\$1.00), and the fee for the fourteen-day plate shall be two dollars (\$2.00). Either of those plates may be renewed for one (1) additional period. No person may operate a motor vehicle for more than twenty-eight (28) days, however, on either of the plates or a combination of the two (2) plates. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a grant of authority for the issuance or use of such temporary plates on trucks or truck tractors being used or tested under load conditions over the streets and highways of this state.

(d) The special purpose plates issued under this section shall expire on March 31 of each year, and a new plate or plates for the ensuing year may be obtained by the person to whom such expired plate or plates were issued upon application to the registrar of motor vehicles, or the registrar's deputy as provided by law. Issuance of the plates shall begin March 1 of each year, upon payment of the fee provided by law, and proof by the applicant that such applicant is still engaged in business as a manufacturer, transporter, dealer or vehicle preparation service.

(e) The commissioner is hereby authorized and empowered to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of this section.

**Section 55-4-222.**

(a) Registration plates issued under the emergency category pursuant to §55-4-202 (c)(1)(B)-(F) may be issued to persons included in the groups set out in this section, and in accordance with the provisions of this part.

(b) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who holds a permanent official identification card of an auxiliary police unit working with the civil defense authorities, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111 and payment of the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate as provided for in this part.

(c) A resident of the state who holds a permanent official registration card of the civil air patrol and/or the civil defense organization, and/or a spouse, whose vehicle is titled or leased in the name of the resident and/or spouse, upon application accompanied by a letter from the local civil defense director indicating the current membership of the applicant and/or the spouse of the applicant, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and payment of any fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate as provided for in this part.

(d) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle, who is a resident of this state and who is a member of the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads or who is a resident of this state and a member of an emergency services squad in any county having a population of six hundred thousand (600,000) or more according to the 1970 federal census or any subsequent federal census, upon complying with the title and registration law, payment of the regular license fee appropriate to the vehicle's design or use, as prescribed under §55-4-111 or §55-4-113, and payment of the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate as provided for in this part. The county clerk shall issue no plates under this section until receiving a list of all eligible members from the captain of the local rescue squad.

(e)(1) The commissioner shall cause to be manufactured metal plates of distinctive design for various groups included in the emergency category. Upon application by the president, or other chief executive officer, of recognized organizations of persons in the various

groups in the emergency category and the submission of a certified listing of the members of that organization and their motor vehicle registration numbers, the commissioner shall sell, at a cost of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per plate, to such chief executive officer the appropriate number of plates for distribution to each listed person, with such plates to be displayed on the front of each vehicle registered by that person in the emergency category.

(2) These plates shall be for identification purposes only and shall not be valid for motor vehicle operation. The plates shall be issued only for the term of the emergency category registration plate, and shall be surrendered by the holder at such time as the holder's emergency registration expires or the holder ceases to be a member of the group included in the emergency category.

(3) It is a Class A misdemeanor to display such plate on any vehicle that is not properly registered in the emergency category.

**Section 55-4-223.**

(a) (1) (A) Upon the sworn statement from the head of any department of the state government or the county executive of any county, or the mayor or other executive head of any town or city, or upon certification of authorized officials of the United States government, or upon the sworn statement from the chief of any private or volunteer fire department, that the motor vehicle for which application is being made for registration is owned by the state, the county, municipality, United States government, or the private or volunteer fire department, and operated exclusively for essential governmental purposes or exclusively for fire protection purposes, the department of safety, through the county clerk or as otherwise provided hereinafter, shall register such vehicle(s) and issue registration plate(s) upon the payment of one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25).

(B) In addition to the governmental entities listed in subdivision (a)(1)(A), senior citizens service centers which meet the standards set by the commission on aging for

eligibility to receive state funds may also apply for government service plates under this section for vans owned by the centers and used exclusively for the centers' activities.

(2) The county clerk shall have a right to collect the fee for registration as hereinafter provided.

(3) In all cases the application shall be accompanied by a sworn statement as above provided, and the county clerk shall not issue any registration plate until special authority is obtained from the department.

(4) The motor vehicle division may receive the sworn statement directly from the head of any department of the state government and in such instances shall register such vehicle and issue such registration plate directly, not through the county clerk, upon payment of the fee above prescribed.

(5) Registration certificate(s) and plate(s) shall be valid for such motor vehicle(s) until the transfer of ownership or the destruction of such motor vehicle at which time the registration shall expire. Upon the expiration of any such registration, the registration certificate(s) and plate(s) shall be returned to the department.

(6) Upon proper application through the county clerk, the registration plate(s) may be transferred to another motor vehicle acquired by the owner to whom the registration certificate(s) and plate(s) were previously issued upon the payment of one dollar (\$1.00) plus the county clerk's fee, except that application from the head of any department of state government may be made directly to the motor vehicle division.

(7) All such registration plates issued to state departmental agencies shall be of such distinctive design as approved by the commissioner and shall not display the year of issuance. All such registration plates issued to governmental agencies, other than the state of Tennessee, shall be of a distinctive design and shall have conspicuously inscribed, stamped or printed thereon so as to be easily seen and read the words "Govt. Service" or "Govt. Ser." All registration plates issued to private or volunteer fire departments shall be of a distinctive design.

(b) The exemption conferred by this section shall apply only to motor vehicles owned and operated by such governmental units or private or volunteer fire department units exclusively for such governmental and fire protection purposes and shall not apply to motor vehicles operated by such governmental units as bailee or lessee.

(c) (1) "Essential government purposes" includes the operation of local transit service by independent contractors operating a local transit company.

(2) As used in this subsection:

(A) "Local transit company" means a person, firm, partnership or corporation, engaged in furnishing, and at least sixty percent (60%) of the total passenger fare revenue of which shall be derived from, scheduled common carrier public passenger land transportation service along the regular routes within a municipality and the territory adjacent thereto, or within a metropolitan government created under title 7, chapters 1-3, the operation of which is supervised, regulated and controlled as a street railway company, under § 65-16-101 and all other legislative and statutory provisions applicable thereto; and

(B) "Local transit service" means scheduled common carrier public passenger land transportation service furnished by a local transit company within the territorial limits of the regulatory jurisdiction of the municipality or metropolitan government which is authorized to supervise, regulate and control the operations of such company, under § 65-16-101, and all other legislative and statutory provisions applicable thereto.

(d) Upon the further certification of the person herein authorized to apply for registration that issuance of plates has been requested for vehicles assigned for use in the investigation of actual or suspected violations of the law, the department may issue plates or authorize issuance thereof from the regular series used for non-tax-exempt vehicles. The registrar of motor vehicles, with the approval of the attorney general and reporter, may enter into agreements with the proper officials of other states for the exchange of plates for the purposes herein provided.

**Section 55-4-224.**

Registration plates for disabled drivers shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and chapter 21 of this title.

**Section 55-4-225.**

(a) A member of the General Assembly, complying with the title and registration law and upon payment of the regular license fee appropriate to the vehicle's design or use as prescribed in this chapter, plus payment of the additional fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate as provided for in this part.

(b) The design of such special purpose license plates shall be rectangular in shape, white in color with all embossed portions, letters and numbers in blue and the great seal of Tennessee in gold. Within an embossed line border, there shall be centered on the upper edge, the word "Tennessee" or "Tenn" enclosed in an embossed line drawing of the state, with the current year of registration designated in the upper left and right corners of the rectangle; centered on the lower edge shall be the word or words "Senate" or "House" as may be appropriate; on the left half of the plate shall be the great seal of the state of Tennessee; and on the right half of the plate the member may at option use such member's initials or other letters if the total number of characters making up such configuration does not exceed four (4) rather than the number assigned to such member. The design of such plate shall not be used by any other branch or agency of the state.

(c) The suffixes provided for in §55-4-202(b)(2), shall be assigned by the speaker of each house. The same numbers assigned in the first year of the biennial for a General Assembly shall be assigned for the second year.

(d) A member, optionally, may use initials or other letters if the total number of characters does not exceed four (4). In the event there is a conflict with respect to like letters, the first applicant to the department shall be entitled to preference.

(e) Members of the General Assembly may be entitled to special purpose plates for additional automobiles owned by such members or their immediate families. These additional plates may bear the same legend as the first assigned tags but shall be distinguished therefrom by the addition of letters A, B, or C; provided, that such letters do not exceed the requirements of this part.

(f) The special plates shall be delivered to the several county clerks for issuance during each registration renewal period as provided in §55-4-206, except that the registrar of motor vehicles may make direct issue of such plates to the members upon proper application being made therefor, if the plates can be prepared for such direct issuance prior to March 1.

(g) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to mean that any member shall be prevented from exchanging a regular type plate for one of special design in the course of a given registration year.

**Section 55-4-226.**

(a) Registration plates for members of the judiciary shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of this part.

(b) Registration plates for judges of the state courts of record shall bear individual distinctive numbers, as determined by the commissioner in consultation with the administrative director of the courts.

(c) (1) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a duly elected juvenile court judge, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and payment of the additional fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a license plate, as prescribed by §55-4-101, for motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c), upon which, in lieu of the numbers as prescribed by §55-4-103, shall be inscribed an individual distinctive number.

(2) Former juvenile court judges may also obtain a license plate as provided for in subdivision (c)(1).

(d) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a duly elected general sessions court judge or former general sessions court judge, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and payment of the additional fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a license plate, as prescribed by §55-4-101, for motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c), upon which, in lieu of the numbers as prescribed by §55-4-103, shall be inscribed with an individual distinctive number.

(e) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a retired or former member of the Tennessee judicial conference, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and payment of the additional fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a license plate, as prescribed by §55-4-101 for motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c), upon which, in lieu of the numbers as prescribed by §55-4-103, shall be inscribed an individual distinctive number.

(f) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a duly elected municipal court judge, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and payment of the additional fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a license plate, as prescribed by §55-4-101, for motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c), upon which, instead of the numbers as prescribed by §55-4-103, shall be inscribed an individual distinctive number.

(g) The amendments to this section by the Public Acts of 1987, ch. 336, which applied provisions of this section to certain former judges, shall not apply to any judge who has been convicted of a felony or who has been removed from office.

**Section 55-4-227.**

An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a duly elected sheriff, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and payment of the additional fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate which shall bear the number of the sheriff's county of jurisdiction and the word "SHERIFF" in capital letters.

**Section 55-4-228.**

(a) Special purpose and distinctive license plates are authorized for active and retired members of the Tennessee National Guard in good standing. The plates are approved for display on motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c) that are owned and operated or leased by a member or member's spouse.

(b) The registrar of motor vehicles shall, with the advice of the adjutant general and the director of the titling and registration division, select an appropriate format for the special purpose plates to include an identification legend which is distinctive to their use and which complies with general registration requirements for vehicles licensed in this state. Additionally, the registrar shall specify the date by which the adjutant general shall furnish the estimate of the necessary number of plates to be manufactured for use in a given registration year, and shall prescribe the time and manner in which the adjutant general shall furnish lists of National Guard members. Such lists shall be suitable to the needs of the department and county clerks and shall comply with the requirements of the law for registering vehicles.

(c) The provisions of chapters 1-6 of this title relating to titling and registering motor vehicles shall apply with respect to the issuance and use of these special purpose plates, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(d) (1) The fees imposed for registrations using the special purpose plates shall be as follows:

(A) For enlisted National Guard members there shall be no tax (fee) for registering the first vehicle and the regular license fee shall be collected for any additional vehicles;

(B) For National Guard officers the tax (fee) shall be the regular license fee for each vehicle; and

(C) For National Guard retirees, the initial issuance of a special purpose plate and renewals thereof shall be made upon payment of the regular registration fee applicable to the vehicle and a fee equal to the cost of producing such special purpose plate, provided, that the issuance of such plates shall be revenue neutral.

(2) The county clerk in effecting registrations through the use of such special purpose plates shall collect other fees that have application for all registrations, such as service charges provided in §55-6-104 and reassignment fees when applicable.

(e) If a holder of a special purpose plate is discharged from the National Guard prior to the expiration of the registration under which such plate was issued, the special purpose plate may remain valid for display on the vehicle until the expiration date of the registration, unless it was issued under the tax-exempt allowance. All plates that are issued under the tax-exempt allowance shall be surrendered to the National Guard when the holders of such plates are discharged from service.

(f) This authority for the use of special purpose license plates is not intended to allow the holders thereof to operate vehicles on which they are displayed in violation of state or local laws or ordinances which govern and relate to the use of motor vehicles.

(g) All applications from retired National Guard members shall contain information as the commissioner shall require to prove eligibility for issuance of a license plate. Eligibility for a special purpose registration plate for National Guard retirees shall be determined by the

department, in consultation with the appropriate information on an applicant's current and valid Armed Forces of Tennessee Identification Card, citing that the request is submitted by a retired member of the Tennessee National Guard.

**Section 55-4-229.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who holds an unrevoked and unexpired official amateur radio station license issued by the federal communications commission may apply to the department, through the county clerk, for issuance of a special purpose license plate under this part. Such application shall be accompanied by proof of ownership of such amateur radio station license.

(b)(1) The initial issuance of a special purpose license plate to such applicant shall be made upon payment of the regular registration fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, and upon payment of the additional fee prescribed by §55-4-203, if applicable. Thereafter, annual renewal for a qualified resident shall be as provided by this chapter.

(2) The special purpose license plates issued pursuant to this section for motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c) and motorcycles shall bear the official amateur radio call letters assigned by the federal communications commission to such applicant.

(c) All applications under this section shall be accompanied by the required fees.

(d) In the event of the reissuance of a special purpose license plate under this section whether due to design changes, loss, changes in call letters, revocation or expiration of the radio station license or any other reason shall require payment of fees in the same manner as initial issuance of the license plate.

(e)(1) To be eligible for an amateur radio license plate issued pursuant to §55-4-202(c)(1)(A) without paying the fee prescribed by §55-4-203(a)(4)(A)(ii) in addition to the regular fee for such plate, the registrant shall furnish proof to the commissioner, through the county clerk, that the registrant is a member of a squad or group that actively participates in needed

services during any and all emergencies, as determined by the civil defense, rescue squads or other such organizations that are engaged in volunteer emergency services.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, to be eligible for an amateur radio license plate without paying the fee prescribed by §55-4-203(a)(4)(A)(ii) in addition to the regular fee for such plate, the registrant shall furnish proof to the commissioner, through the county clerk, that the registrant is a member of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

#### **Section 55-4-230.**

(a) If any modified antique automobile manufactured prior to 1949, hereinafter referred to as a "street rod," is duly registered in this state, the owner of such street rod may apply to the county clerk of the county in which the applicant resides on special application forms prescribed by the commissioner, for a specialty street rod motor vehicle registration plate, to be displayed on such street rod, instead of the standard motor vehicle registration plate. The applicant shall furnish proof that such street rod is registered in a Tennessee street rod club which is fully affiliated with the National Street Rod Association, Inc.

(b) Upon receipt of an application for a specialty street rod motor vehicle registration plate on a form prescribed by the commissioner, the county clerk shall issue to such applicant a specialty street rod motor vehicle registration plate on a permanent basis. There shall be inscribed thereon such letters, numbers or words as are determined by the commissioner to be appropriate and distinctive to identify the recipient as a street rod owner.

(c) Upon approval of the application, the county clerk shall assess the applicant an initial fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00), in addition to the annual license tax levied under this chapter. Thereafter, the specialty plate shall be renewed on an annual basis in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Such applicants shall, in addition to the prescribed annual registration, be required to display a valid National Street Rod Association safety inspection sticker in the lower right-hand corner of the windshield of such vehicle.

(d) The specialty plates shall bear the word "Tennessee" across the top, the words "Street Rod" across the bottom and the identifying letters and individual registration numbers across the middle in sequence "ROD- \_".

**Sections 55-4-231-55-4-234. Reserved**

**Section 55-4-235.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a former prisoner of World War I, World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or the surviving spouse of such former prisoner of war, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon application, shall be issued two (2) license plates for any two (2) motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c), by the department, free of charge for life or, in the case of a surviving spouse, until such person remarries. The application shall be accompanied by a certificate from the United States defense department stating the period of time that the applicant was a prisoner of war or, in the case of an application by a surviving spouse for continuation of a license plate or plates formerly held by a deceased spouse prisoner-of-war, a copy of the death certificate.

(b) The design of such free memorial license plates as are issued shall be colored red, white, and blue so as to be similar in hue and intensity to the coloration of the United States flag and shall carry the legend, "Former P.O.W."

(c) Additional such license plates may be obtained by any former prisoner of war or eligible surviving spouse upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, plus the payment of a fee equal to the cost of actually producing the plate.

**Section 55-4-236.**

(a) The department of safety, or any other department having jurisdiction, shall provide and issue, free of charge, to each resident of this state who is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross or the Air Force Cross, upon presentation of proper application, memorial registration plates for no more than two (2) motor

vehicles or motor homes which are registered or leased for private use in the name of any one (1) recipient. For the purposes of this section, "private use" vehicle means any motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c) or motor home which is not used for rehire or for any other commercial purpose.

(b) The memorial plates provided for in this section shall be the same as regular registration plates, but shall be of a distinctive design which denotes the importance of these distinguished veterans and the high regard in which this state holds the courageous recipients of these military decorations.

**Section 55-4-237.**

(a) (1) The department of safety, or any other department or agency of the state of Tennessee having jurisdiction, shall provide and issue, free of charge, to each disabled veteran in this state, registration and license plates for any motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c) which is registered in the name of or leased by such a disabled veteran, including, but not limited to, a motor home containing life support equipment; provided, however, such authorized motor vehicle or motor home shall not be used for rehire or for any other commercial purpose.

(2) There shall be no more than two (2) disabled veteran memorial license plates issued free of charge to any qualified applicant pursuant to this section. Additional such license plates may be obtained by any disabled veteran upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under §55-4-111, plus the payment of a fee equal to the cost of actually producing the plate.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "disabled veteran" means a veteran having served in the military, naval, marine or air services of the United States, who is a resident of Tennessee and who is entitled to compensation under the laws administered by the veterans' administration for any of the following due to disability incurred in or aggravated by active military, naval, marine or air services of the United States:

(A) Loss or permanent loss of use of one (1) or both feet;

(B) Loss or permanent loss of use of one (1) or both hands; or

(C) Permanent impairment of vision of both eyes of the following status: central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye, with corrective glasses, or central visual acuity of more than 20/200 if there is a field defect in which the peripheral field has contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than twenty degrees (20°) in the better eye.

(b) Any disabled veteran in this state who has any other service-connected disability which is determined by the veterans' administration to constitute a one hundred percent (100%) permanent total disability shall be entitled, upon compliance with the registration laws and without being required to pay a fee, to the issuance of the registration plates provided for by this section.

(c) Disabled veteran registration plates shall bear the words "Disabled Veteran" and a registration number composed of the prefix "DV" and a unique identifying number.

(d) A disabled veteran who is entitled under this section to be issued memorial registration plates, free of charge, may elect in the alternative for the issuance of specialty registration plates for holders of the Purple Heart, free of charge, for no more than two (2) motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c) or two (2) motor homes, as defined in subdivision (a)(1), which are owned or leased by such disabled veteran; provided, that a disabled veteran shall meet the requirements of §55-4-239(c) in order to be eligible for the issuance of specialty registration plates for holders of the Purple Heart.

**Section 55-4-238.**

(a) Specialty and distinctive license plates are authorized for any person who was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and who was present at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941, if such person is currently a resident of Tennessee, is the owner of a motor vehicle or motor home which is registered for private use, and is otherwise qualified to register and license a motor vehicle pursuant to this title. For the purposes of this section,

"private use" vehicle means any motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c) or motor home which is not used for rehire or for any other commercial purpose.

(b) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall be the same as regular registration plates but shall also bear the legend "PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR".

(c) The initial issuance of a specialty plate pursuant to this section and renewals thereof shall be made upon payment of the regular registration fee pursuant to this chapter and the additional fee prescribed by §55-4-203 and submission of information in accordance with subsection (d).

(d) All applications pursuant to this section shall contain such information as the commissioner shall require to prove eligibility for issuance of a license plate pursuant to this section.

#### **Section 55-4-239.**

(a) Holders of the Purple Heart shall be issued a specialty registration plate upon request, upon complying with the title and registration law.

(b) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall include an identification legend distinctive to the holders of the Purple Heart. The legend shall read "Purple Heart Veteran, Combat Wounded". The registration number of the specialty plate shall include the letters "PH" and a unique identifying number.

(c) Eligibility for such specialty registration plates shall be determined by the department in consultation with the appropriate information on the DD214 form, (or in a case of military service predating 1950, in consultation with appropriate information on the equivalent form or on other official documentation) citing that the request is submitted by a holder of the Purple Heart.

(d) Persons eligible for such specialty registration plates shall be eligible to apply for plates for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c) which is owned or leased by such person or owned or leased by a company and furnished to such person; provided, that all appropriate fees, including the fee prescribed by §55-4-203, shall be paid.

(e) A disabled veteran who is entitled to be issued memorial registration plates, free of charge, pursuant to §55-4-237, may elect in the alternative for the issuance of specialty registration plates for holders of the Purple Heart, free of charge, for no more than two (2) motor vehicles authorized by §55-4-210(c) which are owned or leased by such disabled veteran; provided, that a disabled veteran shall meet the requirements of subsection (c) in order to be eligible for the issuance of specialty registration plates for holders of the Purple Heart.

#### **Section 55-4-240**

Memorial registration plates shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of this part and §55-4-235 pertaining to former prisoners of war, §55-4-236 pertaining to recipients of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross and Navy Cross, and §55-4-237 pertaining to disabled veterans.

#### **Section 55-4-241.**

Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state and who are members of volunteer fire departments or full-time fire-fighting units, or other bona fide firefighters, including paid, paid-on-call, or volunteer firefighters, shall be issued a special "firefighter" registration plate, as provided for in this part, upon proof of current membership in a fire-fighting unit and upon compliance with state motor vehicle registration and licensing laws and payment of the applicable registration fee under §55-4-111. The design configuration of each license plate shall be embossed.

#### **Section 55-4-242.**

(a) A member of the United States reserve forces shall be issued a specialty registration plate, upon request, for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c), upon complying with the title and registration laws and paying the regular fee applicable to the vehicle and the additional fee prescribed by §55-4-203.

(b) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall include an identification legend distinctive to members of the United States reserve forces. The legend shall read "US Reserve

Forces." The registration number of the specialty plates shall include the letters "US" and a unique identifying number.

(c) Eligibility for such specialty registration plates shall be determined by the department in consultation with the appropriate information on current and valid DD Form 2A (Res), DD Form 2N (Res), DD Form 2MC (Res), DD Form 2AF (Res) or DD Form 2CG (Res) (Armed Forces of the United States identification card,) citing that the request is submitted by a member of the United States reserve forces.

#### **Section 55-4-243.**

(a) (1) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is an "enemy evadee" certified as such by the department of veterans' affairs, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the vehicle and the fee prescribed by §55-4-203, shall be issued a specialty license plate, for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(2) A surviving spouse of a deceased enemy evadee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the vehicle and the fee prescribed by §55-4-203, shall be issued a specialty license plate pursuant to this section, until such person remarries.

(3) The application shall be accompanied by orders or a statement of discharge from the appropriate branch of the United States armed forces, certified by the department of veterans' affairs, classifying the applicant as an "enemy evadee," or in the case of an application by a surviving spouse for continuation of a license plate or plates formerly held by a deceased spouse enemy evadee, a copy of the death certificate.

(b) (1) The design of such license plates that are issued pursuant to this section shall be colored red, white and blue so as to be similar in hue and intensity to the coloration of the United States flag and shall bear the legend, "ENEMY EVADEE".

(2) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the commissioner of veterans' affairs.

(c) For the purposes of this part, "enemy evadees" means veterans of the United States armed forces who, in time of war, successfully evaded capture behind enemy lines, and many of whom joined local indigenous personnel in resisting enemy forces.

**Section 55-4-244.**

(a) Specialty and distinctive license plates are authorized for active and retired members of the United States military and the United States military reserves in good standing. The plates are approved for display on motor vehicles which are authorized by §55-4-210(c) and which are owned and operated, or leased by, a member or member's spouse.

(b) The registration plates shall be of such distinctive design as approved by the commissioner of safety and shall include the appropriate emblem of the branch of service of the recipient of the plate. The registration plates shall also contain the words "Volunteer State" at the bottom of the plates.

(c) The initial issuance of a specialty plate pursuant to this section and renewals thereof shall be made upon payment of the regular registration fee applicable to the vehicle and the fee prescribed by §55-4-203.

(d) (1) All applications pursuant to this section shall contain such information as the commissioner shall require to prove eligibility for issuance of a license plate pursuant to this section. Eligibility for such specialty registration plate for United States reserve forces shall be determined by the department in consultation with the appropriate information on current and valid DD Form 2A (Res), DD Form 2N (Res), DD Form 2MC (Res), DD Form 2AF (Res) or DD Form 2CG (Res) (Armed Forces of the United States Identification Card,) citing that the request is submitted by a member of the United States reserve forces.

(2) Retired members of the United States armed forces who have participated in voluntary early retirement authorized by the branch of the United States armed forces in which

they served shall also be eligible for the issuance of a specialty plate pursuant to this section. Eligibility for such specialty registration plates for retired members of the United States armed forces who have participated in voluntary early retirement shall be determined by the department, in consultation with the appropriate information on such retired members' "Certificate Of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" or on the current and valid forms enumerated in subdivision (d)(1).

(e) Each recipient of a specialty military plate issued pursuant to this section may apply an appropriate decal to the plate which designates the military unit in which such recipient served and/or the purpose for which such specialty plate has been issued. The decal, and the placement of the decal, shall be subject to the approval of the commissioners of safety and veterans' affairs. The cost of such decal shall be borne by the recipient of the plate wishing to apply such decal.

#### **Section 55-4-245.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is certified as a member of the national Fraternal Order of Police, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) (1) The application for such license plates shall be accompanied by a notarized statement from the Fraternal Order of Police certifying the applicant to be a member of such organization.

(2) Such application shall only be permitted to full-time paid or retired law enforcement officers or their spouses who are members of the Fraternal Order of Police.

(c) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall bear the inscription "FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE" or "FOP" and an appropriate standardized insignia of such organization.

(d) (1) Within thirty (30) days of terminating membership in the Fraternal Order of Police, an applicant to whom a specialty license plate has been issued pursuant to this section shall surrender such plate to the county clerk of the county of the applicant's residence.

(2) The Fraternal Order of Police shall provide biannually to the department the names and addresses of any persons who have terminated their membership in the Fraternal Order of Police, along with such other identifying information as the commissioner may require.

**55-4-246.**

An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a square dance specialty plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

**Section 55-4-247.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Penn State University collegiate license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The collegiate plates provided for in this section shall be of the colors and contain the logo of Penn State University.

**Section 55-4-248.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee and who are certified as members of one (1) of the following service or fraternal clubs: B'nai B'rith, Civitans, Eastern Star, Exchange Club, Jaycees, Junior League, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis, Lions Club, NAACP, Optimists, Rotary International, Sertoma Club, Tennessee District Exchange Club, or Toastmasters, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor

vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued an appropriate service or fraternal club specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The application for such specialty license plates shall be accompanied by a notarized statement from the appropriate service or fraternal club pursuant to subsection (a), certifying the applicant to be a member of such organization

(c) The specialty plates provided for in section this shall be of the colors and contain the logo of the appropriate organization pursuant to subsection (a).

(d) Specialty plates issued pursuant to this section shall be subject to a minimum order of four hundred (400) plates for each classification of plate enumerated in subsection (a).

**Section 55-4-249.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee and who wish to contribute to the welfare and well-being of Tennessee's public schools, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided in §55-4-203, shall be issued a "Helping Schools" specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the department of education.

(c) (1) (A) The proceeds from the fee paid pursuant to §55-4-203 for the sale of "Helping Schools" specialty earmarked plates and the special decals authorized by this section, minus the expense the state has incurred in designing, marketing and manufacturing such plates or decals, shall be deposited in the general school fund. At the option of the local school board or boards, these funds may be provided to an educational foundation in each system or systems. The foundation shall be duly chartered under the statutes of Tennessee.

(B) The foundation shall allocate the funds solely for supplies, equipment and training for students and certificated employees. Proceeds shall be distributed to the

local education agency according to the average daily attendance of schools which serve the counties in which such proceeds were generated.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other provision of law to the contrary, in lieu of the specialty earmarked plates provided by this section, owners or lessees of authorized motor vehicles may be issued a special decal for the windshield of such motor vehicles, such decal containing the logo "Helping Schools." All other provisions of this section concerning the issuance of specialty earmarked license plates, including the payment of the special fee as provided in §55-4-203, shall apply to the special decal.

**Section 55-4-250.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a University of Florida collegiate license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The collegiate plates provided for in this section shall be of the colors and contain the logo of the University of Florida.

**Section 55-4-251.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a University of Arkansas collegiate license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The collegiate plates provided for in this section shall be of the colors and contain the logo of the University of Arkansas.

**Section 55-4-252.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a non-game and endangered wildlife species or "Watchable Wildlife" specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The funds produced from the sale of such non-game and endangered wildlife species or "Watchable Wildlife" specialty earmarked license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in the watchable wildlife endowment fund established by §70-8-110(c), to be used exclusively for the preservation of non-game and endangered wildlife species and the protection and enhancement of such species' habitats.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee wildlife resources agency.

**Section 55-4-253.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of this state and who are honorably discharged veterans of the United States armed forces, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided in §55-4-203, shall be issued an honorably discharged veteran specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The application for such specialty plates shall be accompanied by orders or a statement of discharge from the appropriate branch of the United States armed forces, classifying the applicant as an honorably discharged veteran.

(c) (1) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the commissioner of veterans' affairs.

(2) The design of such specialty plates that are issued pursuant to this section shall bear the name of the county of issue on the lower edge of the tag.

(3) For honorably discharged veterans, the American flag shall be in the center of the tag.

(4) For Vietnam veterans, who are honorably discharged, the center emblem shall be crossed American and Republic of Vietnam Flags. A Southeast Asia campaign medal shall have been awarded in order to obtain the Vietnam Veteran plate.

(5) For World War II veterans, the strip along the bottom of the license plate shall read "WW II Veteran," and the symbol on the left shall be the Honorable Service Lapel Pin, also known as the "ruptured duck." Proof of honorable military service between December 7, 1941 and December 31, 1946, shall be required to obtain such plate.

(6) For Korean War veterans, the strip along the bottom of the license plate shall read "Korean War Veteran," and the symbol on the left shall be crossed American and Republic of Korea Flags. A Korean Service Medal shall have been awarded for an honorably discharged veteran to obtain such plate.

(7) For Operation Desert Storm veterans, the strip along the bottom of the license plate shall read "Desert Storm Veteran," and the symbol on the left shall be crossed American and Kuwait Flags. Award of the Southwest Asia Service medal and proof of honorable service shall be required for a veteran to obtain such plate.

(8) For veterans of the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, the plate shall be designed by the commissioner of veterans' affairs' in consultation with the commissioner of safety. The commissioner of veterans' affairs shall also set proof of service requirements for honorably discharged veterans to obtain such plate.

(d) The commissioner of safety is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this section. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(e) For the purpose of complying with the requirements of §55-4-201(b)(3), the classifications of specialty plates enumerated in subdivisions (c)(3)-(c)(8) shall be defined as a single specialty plate and shall be subject to a total minimum order of four hundred (400) plates for all such classifications.

**Section 55-4-254.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee and who wish to contribute to crime prevention in Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided in §55-4-203, shall be issued an anti-crime specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain an anti-crime logo.

(c) (1) (A) The proceeds from the fee paid pursuant to §55-4-203 for the sale of anti-crime specialty earmarked plates or the special decals authorized by this section, minus the expense the department has incurred in designing, marketing and manufacturing such plates or decals, shall be deposited to the general fund administered by the county executive of the county which issued the license plate. The proceeds shall be used exclusively for supplies, equipment and relief for victims of crime as directed by a citizens advisory committee.

(B) The citizens advisory committee shall consist of three (3) citizens from the county and one (1) citizen from each incorporated city within the county, to be appointed by the county or municipal legislative body, respectively. The members shall serve on the committee at the pleasure of the respective legislative bodies and without compensation. The committee is authorized to develop guidelines for the disbursement of funds for the benefit of victims.

(C) At the direction of the citizens advisory committee, the county executive shall distribute such funds to a victims relief foundation. The foundation shall allocate the funds solely for supplies, equipment and relief for victims.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other provision of law to the contrary, in lieu of the specialty earmarked plates authorized by this section, owners or lessees of authorized motor vehicles may be issued a special decal for the windshield of such motor vehicles, such decal containing the anti-crime logo. All other provisions of this section concerning issuance of specialty earmarked license plates, including the payment of the special fee as provided in §55-4-203, shall apply to the special decal.

**Section 55-4-255.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Native American Indian specialty plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The commissioner of safety, after consultation with the commission on Indian affairs, shall determine the color and design for such specialty plates.

**Section 55-4-256.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a University of Mississippi collegiate license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The collegiate plates provided for in this section shall be of the colors and contain the logo of the University of Mississippi.

**Section 55-4-257.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Tennessee and who are members of the Tennessee state employees association, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to motor vehicles and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Tennessee state employees association specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The application for such license plates shall be accompanied by proof satisfactory to the commissioner, certifying the applicant to be a member of the Tennessee state employees association.

(c) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo of the Tennessee state employees association and shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee state employees association.

**Section 55-4-258.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is certified as a member of the Tennessee Police Benevolent Association, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Tennessee Police Benevolent Association specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) (1) The application for such license plates shall be accompanied by a notarized statement from the Tennessee Police Benevolent Association, certifying the applicant to be a member of such organization.

(2) Such application shall only be permitted to full-time paid or retired law enforcement officers who are members of the Tennessee Police Benevolent Association.

(c) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall bear the inscription "POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION" or "PBA" and an appropriate standardized insignia of such organization.

(d)(1) Within thirty (30) days of terminating membership in the Tennessee Police Benevolent Association, an applicant to whom a specialty license plate has been issued pursuant to this section shall surrender such plate to the county clerk of the county of the applicant's residence.

(2) The Tennessee Police Benevolent Association shall provide biannually to the department the names and addresses of any persons who have terminated their membership in the Tennessee Police Benevolent Association, along with such other identifying information as the commissioner may require.

#### **Section 55-4-259.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Tennessee Walking Horse specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall bear the image of or a design depicting the Tennessee Walking Horse.

#### **Section 55-4-260**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Tennessee and who are certified as members of the International Association of Firefighters, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued an International Association of Firefighters specialty license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The application for such license plates shall be accompanied by proof satisfactory to the commissioner, certifying the applicant to be a member of the International Association of Firefighters.

(c) The specialty plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo of the International Association of Firefighters, and shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee chapter of the International Association of Firefighters.

**Section 55-4-261.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Tennessee and who are certified as members or alumni members of the following fraternities or sororities: Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, Omega Psi Phi, Alpha Phi Alpha, Phi Beta Sigma, or Kappa Alpha Psi, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued an appropriate African American fraternity or sorority specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The application for such license plates shall be accompanied by proof satisfactory to the commissioner, certifying the applicant to be a member or alumni member of the appropriate fraternity or sorority pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be of the colors and contain the logo of the appropriate fraternity or sorority pursuant to subsection (a) and shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the appropriate fraternity or sorority.

(d) The proceeds from the fees paid pursuant to §55-4-203 for the sale of the African American fraternity and sorority specialty earmarked plates authorized by this section, minus the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in a fund to benefit Tennessee historically black colleges (Fisk University, Knoxville College, Lane College and LeMoyne-Owen College).

**Section 55-4-262.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued an environmental specialty earmarked plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) All revenues produced from the sale of environmental plates, minus the costs the state has incurred in designing, marketing and manufacturing such plates, shall be allocated to the division of state parks in the department of environment and conservation to be used solely for the planting and cultivation of trees, shrubs, plants, and flowers and for the maintenance thereof.

**Section 55-4-263.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a supporter of Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the chair of the board of directors of Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital.

(c) (1) The funds produced from the sale of such supporters of Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital specialty earmarked license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in a special fund in the general fund to be used exclusively for research into the causes and treatment of cancer and cancer-related illnesses in children at children's hospitals in Tennessee that have such treatment and research as their principal mission. The commissioner of health shall make grants to such hospitals for such research from moneys available in the special fund.

(2) There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the general appropriations act which shall be known as the children's cancer research endowment fund. Moneys from the fund may be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any revenues deposited in this reserve shall remain in the reserve until expended for purposes consistent with this section, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any excess revenues on interest earned by such revenues shall not revert on any June 30, but shall remain available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. Any appropriation from such reserve shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

**Section 55-4-264.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a specialty earmarked plate to support the arts for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The Tennessee arts commission is authorized to design multiple plates for issuance pursuant to this section, provided that the minimum requirements of §55-4-201(b)(3) shall apply to the issuance of each individual classification of such plates.

(c) The Tennessee arts commission shall determine the colors and pictorial representations to be included on such plates.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, all revenues produced from the sale or renewal of specialty earmarked plates to support the arts, minus the expense the state has incurred in manufacturing such plates, shall be allocated to the Tennessee arts commission.

**Section 55-4-265.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Tennessee and who are certified as members of Ducks Unlimited, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Ducks Unlimited specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The application for such license plates shall be accompanied by proof satisfactory to the commissioner certifying, the applicant to be a member of Ducks Unlimited.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo of Ducks Unlimited, and shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee chapter of Ducks Unlimited.

(d) The funds produced from the sale of the Ducks Unlimited specialty earmarked license plates authorized by this section, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in a special fund in the general fund to be used exclusively for grants by the commissioner of environment and conservation to Ducks Unlimited.

**Section 55-4-266.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued, upon request, a Tennessee Home Education Association specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) (1) The funds produced from the sale of such Tennessee Home Education Association specialty earmarked license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in the Tennessee Home Education Association fund established by this section, to be used exclusively for the assistance of activities of the Tennessee Home Education Association. The commissioner of education is

authorized to make disbursements from the fund in the form of grants to the Tennessee Home Education Association in order to provide such assistance.

(2) There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the general appropriations act which shall be known as the Tennessee Home Education Association fund. Moneys from the fund may be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any revenues deposited in this reserve shall remain in the reserve until expended for purposes consistent with this section, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any excess revenues on interest earned by such revenues shall not revert on any June 30, but shall remain available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. Any appropriation from such reserve shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates authorized by this section shall be designed in consultation with the commissioner of education and the executive director of the Tennessee Home Education Association.

**Section 55-4-267.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of this state and who wish to promote agriculture in Tennessee through market development, education, and awareness, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued an agriculture specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b)(1) The additional fee imposed by §55-4-203 for the issuance of agricultural specialty earmarked license plates, minus the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be earmarked for and appropriated to the department of agriculture for deposit in the agricultural development fund.

(2) The agricultural development fund shall be used exclusively for funding projects and activities that promote market development for agricultural products, as well as promoting information, education, and awareness about agriculture in Tennessee.

(3) The commissioner of agriculture may issue grants from the agricultural development fund for the purposes set forth in this section.

(4) Moneys in the agricultural development fund shall not revert to the general fund at the end of any fiscal year, but shall be carried forward in a reserve fund into the next fiscal year to be reappropriated for the purposes set forth in this section. All interest accruing on investments and deposits in the agricultural development fund not otherwise expended shall be returned to and made a part of the fund.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the commissioner of agriculture.

#### **Section 55-4-268.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall contain the logo of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

(c) The funds produced from the sale of the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) specialty earmarked plates authorized by this section, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be remitted by the department of safety to the Tennessee chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

**Section 55-4-269.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a passenger rail service specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The funds produced from the sale of such passenger rail service specialty earmarked license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in a special reserve account in the general fund earmarked for the use of the Tennessee passenger railroad commission, created by §4-47-101. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the encouragement of availability and use of passenger rail service in Tennessee.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with members of the Tennessee passenger railroad commission.

**Section 55-4-270.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued, upon request, a senior citizens specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) (1) The funds produced from the sale of such senior citizens specialty earmarked license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in the senior citizens center endowment fund established by this section, to be used exclusively for the assistance of senior citizens centers in Tennessee.

(2) Funds shall be awarded in the form of grants to senior citizens centers on a county-by-county basis. The funds generated by senior citizens specialty earmarked license plate sales in a county shall be earmarked for grants to senior citizens centers in that county.

(3) The commissioner of human services is authorized to make disbursements from the fund in the form of grants to senior citizens centers in order to provide such assistance.

(4) There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the general appropriations act which shall be known as the senior citizens centers fund. Moneys from the fund may be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any revenues deposited in this reserve shall remain in the reserve until expended for purposes consistent with this section, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any excess revenues on interest earned by such revenues shall not revert on any June 30, but shall remain available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. Any appropriation from such reserve shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee commission on aging.

#### **Section 55-4-271.**

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a Friends of Great Smoky Mountains specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) (1) The funds produced from the sale of such Friends of Great Smoky Mountains specialty earmarked license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in the Friends of Great Smoky Mountains Endowment Fund established by this section, to be used exclusively for the assistance of the

National Park Service in the care of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The commissioner of environment and conservation is authorized to make disbursements from the fund in the form of grants to Friends of Great Smoky Mountains, Inc., in order to provide such assistance.

(2) There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the general appropriations act which shall be known as the Friends of Great Smoky Mountains endowment fund. Moneys from the fund may be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any revenues deposited in this reserve shall remain in the reserve until expended for purposes consistent with this section, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any excess revenues on interest earned by such revenues shall not revert on any June 30, but shall remain available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. Any appropriation from such reserve shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

(3) No expenditures shall be made from the principal of the fund. No expenditures shall be made from the interest earned until the combination of principal and interest reaches one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Thereafter, interest earned shall be available for expenditures to aid in carrying out the purposes of the fund.

(c) The specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be designed in consultation with a representative of Friends of Great Smoky Mountains, Inc.

#### **Sections 55-4-272.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued an Olympic specialty earmarked plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b)(1) The fees authorized by §55-4-203 and subdivision (f)(1) shall be divided evenly, without administrative costs except for the fees normally assessed by county clerks, between the Tennessee arts commission and the United States Olympic Committee.

(2) Fees due the United States Olympic Committee shall be paid within ninety (90) days of September 30, December 31, March 31, and June 30, for the three (3) months ending on these dates.

(c) The executive director of the Tennessee Ocoee development agency shall enter into a licensing agreement with the United States Olympic Committee for the use of Olympic symbols and words on the Olympic plates or other agreements necessary or appropriate to the implementation of this section. Such agreement(s) will be transmitted to the commissioner of safety upon execution.

(d) The commissioner of safety shall allow the United States Olympic Committee to publicize the Olympic specialty earmarked plate by inclusion of printed material in mailings of the department of safety; provided, that the United States Olympic committee shall bear the entire cost of additional printing and additional postage.

(e) The commissioner of safety and the commissioner of correction shall assure that the final design of such plates is approved by the board of directors of the Tennessee Ocoee development agency and the United States Olympic committee and that such plates are able to accommodate at least seven (7) numbers, letters, positions or a combination thereof.

(f)(1) Pursuant to §55-4-211, an applicant may, through the payment of a personalization fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) in addition to the regular registration fee and the additional twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee established by §55-4-203, obtain an Olympic specialty earmarked plate containing a personalized combination of numbers, letters or positions.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of §§55-6-107 and 55-4-214, all revenues produced from the personalization of Olympic specialty earmarked plates pursuant to this subsection shall be allocated as earmarked in subdivision (b)(1).

(g) If after December 31, 1999, fewer than four hundred (400) Olympic plates have been issued for the prior calendar year, then the commissioner of safety shall discontinue the issuance of Olympic specialty earmarked plates.

**Section 55-4-273.**

(a) An owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a KIDS FIRST! specialty earmarked plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(b) The commissioner of safety, in consultation with the commission on children and youth, shall determine a distinctive color and design for the "KIDS FIRST!" specialty earmarked plate.

(c) All revenues produced in each fiscal year from the sale of "KIDS FIRST!" specialty earmarked plates, minus the costs the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be allocated to the department of human services, to be used solely to provide additional funding for child abuse prevention services pursuant to §71-6-203.

**Section 55-4-274.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of §55-4-103(b)(4), if additional space is needed on any specialty, new specialty, specialty earmarked or new specialty earmarked plate, memorial plate or special purpose plate issued pursuant to this part for a logo or other identifying message, the commissioner shall be authorized to waive the requirement that such plates specify the name of the county of issue.

**PART 3 – Reserved.**

SECTION 2. The Tennessee code commission is directed to delete the appropriate sections or subsections of Tennessee Code Annotated as such sections or subsections are deemed obsolete and invalid pursuant to the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. No later than July 15 of each year, the department of safety shall notify the Tennessee code commission which sections or subsections of Tennessee Code Annotated have been deemed obsolete and invalid pursuant to the provisions of this act, if any.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of safety is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the administrative issuance of the new specialty and new specialty earmarked motor vehicle registration plates authorized by this act and all other purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 5. For the purpose of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.